

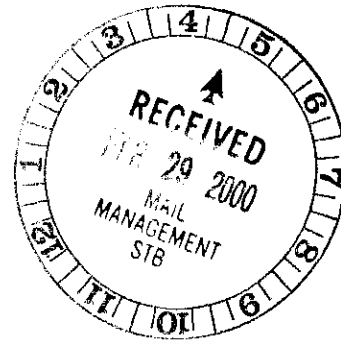


197434  
TROPHY FOODS INC.

71 Admiral Boulevard  
Mississauga, Ontario L5T 2T1  
Telephone: (905) 670-8050  
Fax: (905) 670-4256

February 25, 2000

Mr. Vernon A. Williams, Secretary,  
Surface Transportation Board,  
Office of the Secretary,  
Case Control Unit,  
Attn: STB Ex Parte No. 582,  
1925 K Street, N.W.,  
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001



Dear Sir:

Trophy Foods Inc. is a producer and distributor of foods, and is a user of rail service in the U.S. and Canada. The purpose of this letter is to comment on the issues to be discussed on March 8, 2000 in Ex Parte 582.

We encourage the Surface Transportation Board to focus on whether the proposed CN-BNSF combination is good for shippers. The CN-BNSF combination should be judged on its merits and if other carriers propose mergers, then these cases ought to be evaluated on their merits.

The timing of the proposed CN-BNSF combination is not the central issue for our company. Our concern is service and competitiveness. Accordingly, the Surface Transportation Board should focus on ensuring the CN-BNSF combination, and any other future mergers, will deliver service and be competitive.

The Surface Transportation Board has a comprehensive process to evaluate railroad transactions and protect the public interest. It should fairly evaluate the CN-BNSF combination according to that process. Do not let other railroads use the Surface Transportation Board process to protect themselves and not the shippers.

Sincerely,

TROPHY FOODS INC.

Garland Williamson,  
President.  
GW/ml

ENTERED  
Office of the Secretary

FEB 29 2000

Part of  
Public Record